

INFAMOUS IRON MAN™

BENDIS • MALEEV • HOLLINGSWORTH

MARVEL

#12



TAM
PZA



INFAMOUS IRON MAN



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Victor Von Doom has lived a lifetime of devious infamy as Doctor Doom--but recent events, including the sudden, almost fatal incapacitation of Tony Stark, A.K.A. Iron Man, have inspired Doom to dedicate his life to more heroic pursuits...as the **INFAMOUS IRON MAN**.

Victor recently discovered that his mother, the dark arts master Cynthia Von Doom, was alive and wanted to rekindle their relationship. Doom was about to let her back into his life when a dark version of Reed Richards revealed that he was pulling Cynthia's strings, and displayed such ferocious power that Doom turned himself in to S.H.I.E.L.D. for protection.

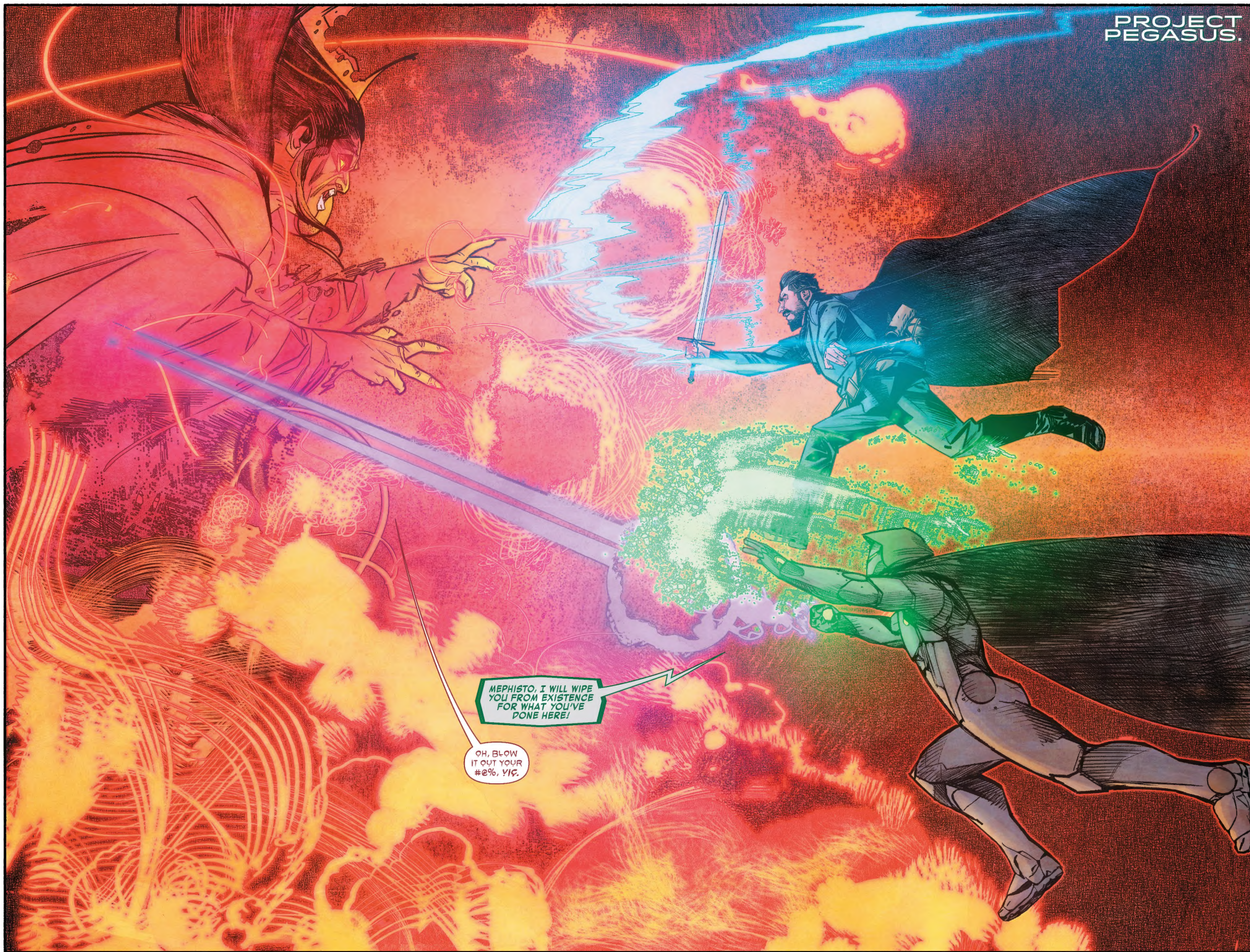
When Reed appeared at PEGASUS Base, Doom teamed up with Doctor Strange and the Thing to confront him, and his true identity was revealed at last. Mephisto, the lord of the underworld and Doom's longtime nemesis, has been posing as the lost leader of the Fantastic Four to sabotage Victor's chances of redemption.

And now he's finally tipped his hand...

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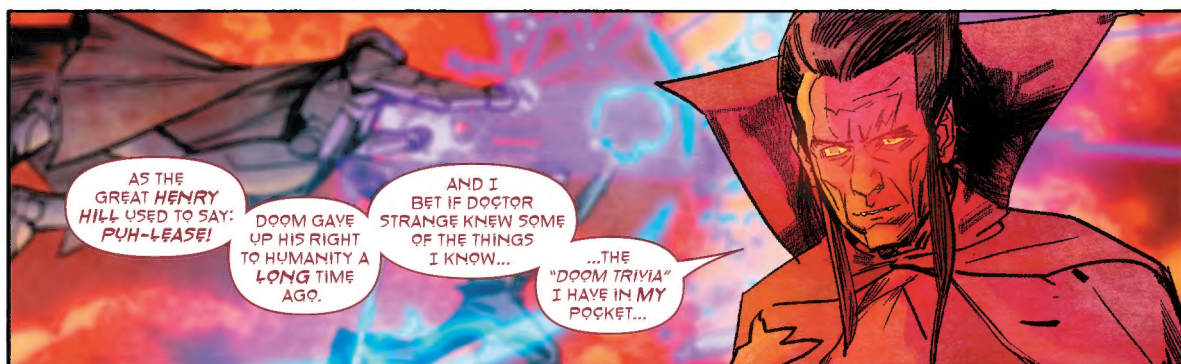
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.....



MEPHISTO, I WILL WIPE
YOU FROM EXISTENCE
FOR WHAT YOU'VE
DONE HERE!

OH, BLOW
IT OUT YOUR
#@%, VIC.





LISTEN, FIGHTS AT THIS LEVEL, LIKE GOOD CHECKERS OR THE END OF KILL BILL VOLUME 2, ARE NOT LABORIOUS BATTLES THAT GO ON AND ON.

THEY ARE PRECISE AND END VERY QUICKLY.

I WASN'T PREPARED FOR DOCTOR STRANGE TO BE HERE, SO I WANTED TO TAKE THIS MOMENT--



ACTUALLY, I TAKE IT BACK...

...STRANGE WOULD PROBABLY STILL USE THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO SCORE VISHANTI POINTS BY HELPING DOOM...NO MATTER WHAT.

STRANGE.

SO PROPERLY NAMED.

HE'S SUCH A SANCTIMONIOUS WEIRDO, RIGHT?



BUT STRANGE WILL ASCEND TO THE NEXT PLANE...THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT THAT...

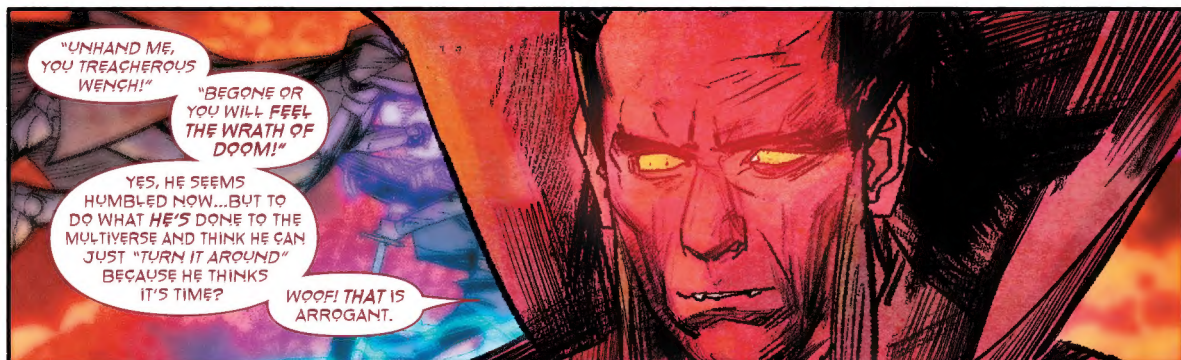
HE CAN BE THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY, BUT DOOM?

NO WAY.

HIS ARROGANT ASS IS MINE.

THAT'S ALL THIS IS, BY THE WAY... ARROGANCE.

IT'S ALL HE IS.



"UNHAND ME, YOU TREACHEROUS WENCH!"

"BEGONE OR YOU WILL FEEL THE WRATH OF DOOM!"

YES, HE SEEMS HUMBLER NOW...BUT TO DO WHAT HE'S DONE TO THE MULTIVERSE AND THINK HE CAN JUST "TURN IT AROUND" BECAUSE HE THINKS IT'S TIME?

WOOF! THAT IS ARROGANT.



FOR HIS ENTIRE LIFE, THIS LITTLE @#\$% HAS HAD A RAGE-ON FOR ANYTHING AND EVERYBODY.

HE HAS TRIED TO BURN YOU ALL ALIVE BECAUSE HIS MOTHER NEVER LOVED HIM...

...HE HAS TRIED TO RESHAPE ALL OF US IN HIS IMAGE...

...AND YES, IF YOU KNOW YOUR HISTORY, HE HAS EVEN HAD THE ARROGANCE TO GO TO WAR WITH ME.

NOW HE WANTS TO BE ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS?

NO!



AND, YES,
I WILL ADMIT HE
BEAT ME.

THAT ONE
TIME.

HE
DEFEATED ME
FOR HIS MOMMY'S
ROTTED WITCH
SOUL.

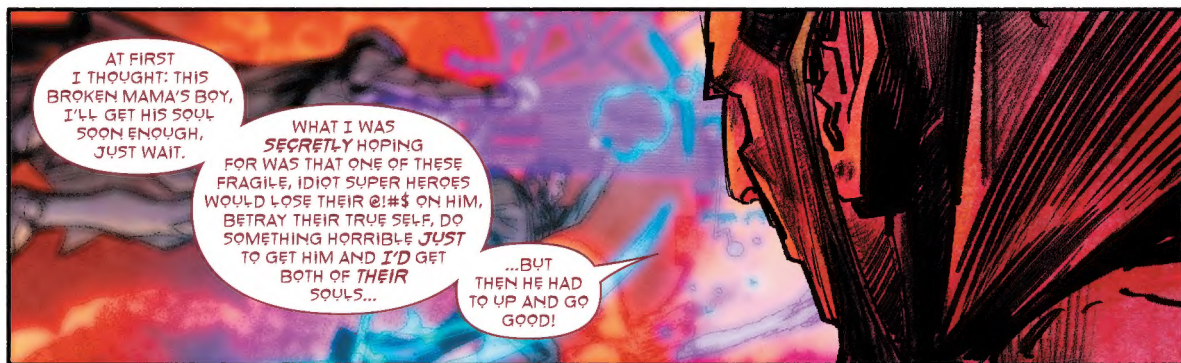
WELL, HE
CAME **CLOSER** THAN
ANYONE AROUND HERE
HAS EVER COME TO
BEATING ME.



A
MORTAL. **THAT**
MORTAL.

I **DO** HAVE
PEERS, YOU KNOW.
I HAVE A **REPUTATION**.
I HAVE A **PLACE** IN
THE UNIVERSE.

LIKE I'M
LOOKING TO COME
DOWN HERE AND PICK
FIGHTS WITH **YOU**
PEOPLE...



AT FIRST
I THOUGHT: THIS
BROKEN MAMA'S BOY,
I'LL GET HIS SOUL
SOON ENOUGH,
JUST WAIT.

WHAT I WAS
SECRETLY HOPING
FOR WAS THAT ONE OF THESE
FRAGILE, IDIOT SUPER HEROES
WOULD LOSE THEIR @!#\$ ON HIM,
BETRAY THEIR TRUE SELF, DO
SOMETHING HORRIBLE **JUST**
TO GET HIM AND I'D GET
BOTH OF **THEIR**
SOULS...

...BUT
THEN HE HAD
TO UP AND GO
GOOD!



I'M
BREAKING
A LOT OF RULES
COMING DOWN
HERE LIKE THIS,
BY THE
WAY...

...AND
YOU HEAR
THAT?

THAT IS
THE SOUND OF
NO ONE ELSE IN THE
UNIVERSE TRYING
TO STOP
ME.

NO GOD,
ELDER, DEMIGOD,
GALACTIC ENTITY, DEMON,
ETERNAL, INFINITY
WARRIOR, NOVA OR
ANYONE ELSE...



WHEN THE
OTHER POWERS IN
THE UNIVERSE DON'T TRY
TO STOP ME, YOU **KNOW**
THEY ARE SO VERY HAPPY
TO SEE **ME** TAKE CARE OF
THIS FOR THEM.

BECAUSE
THE ENTIRE
UNIVERSE WANTS
DOOM TO SUFFER
AND FAIL.

And his
mommy?



JUST SOMETHING I MADE.

THE PLAN HAD TO BE ABOUT MOMMY. I MADE ONE. I TRAINED IT.

TOO WELL, IT SEEMS. HE THOUGHT IT WAS REAL. SHE DID, TOO.

JUST LIKE THE REAL THING, SHE MESSED IT ALL UP.

I'M NOT EVEN SURE IF SHE WOULD BE CONSIDERED REAL. WHAT IS REAL?

I DON'T CARE.



DID YOU SEE HIM CRY OVER IT? OH, WELL, HE DID.

IT WAS HILARIOUS.

SO I MAY NOT HAVE GOTTEN THE KILL SHOT *THIS* TIME, BUT THIS IS GOING TO MESS HIM UP FOR A *VERY* LONG TIME.

IT'S GOING TO MESS UP HIS REDEMPTION QUEST-- EVERY RELATIONSHIP HE HAS WILL SUFFER...

I WAS HOPING TO PUSH THIS SO FAR THAT, AFTER A PUBLIC HUMILIATION OF SOME MAGNITUDE, HE WOULD TAKE HIS OWN LIFE...OR GET HIS "MOMMY" TO DO IT.

AH, SO CLOSE.



IN A SECOND, THEY'RE GOING TO BANISH ME.

IT'S GOING TO HURT AND IT'S GOING TO TAKE ME A LONG TIME TO RECONSTITUTE AND FIND MY WAY BACK TO WHAT YOU WOULD CONSIDER THE REAL UNIVERSE.

I DON'T CARE.

I NEEDED TO DO THIS.

THIS IS A COSMIC KARMA DEBT.

HE @#\$ THE DEVIL AND NOW THE DEVIL HAS @#\$ HIM BACK.



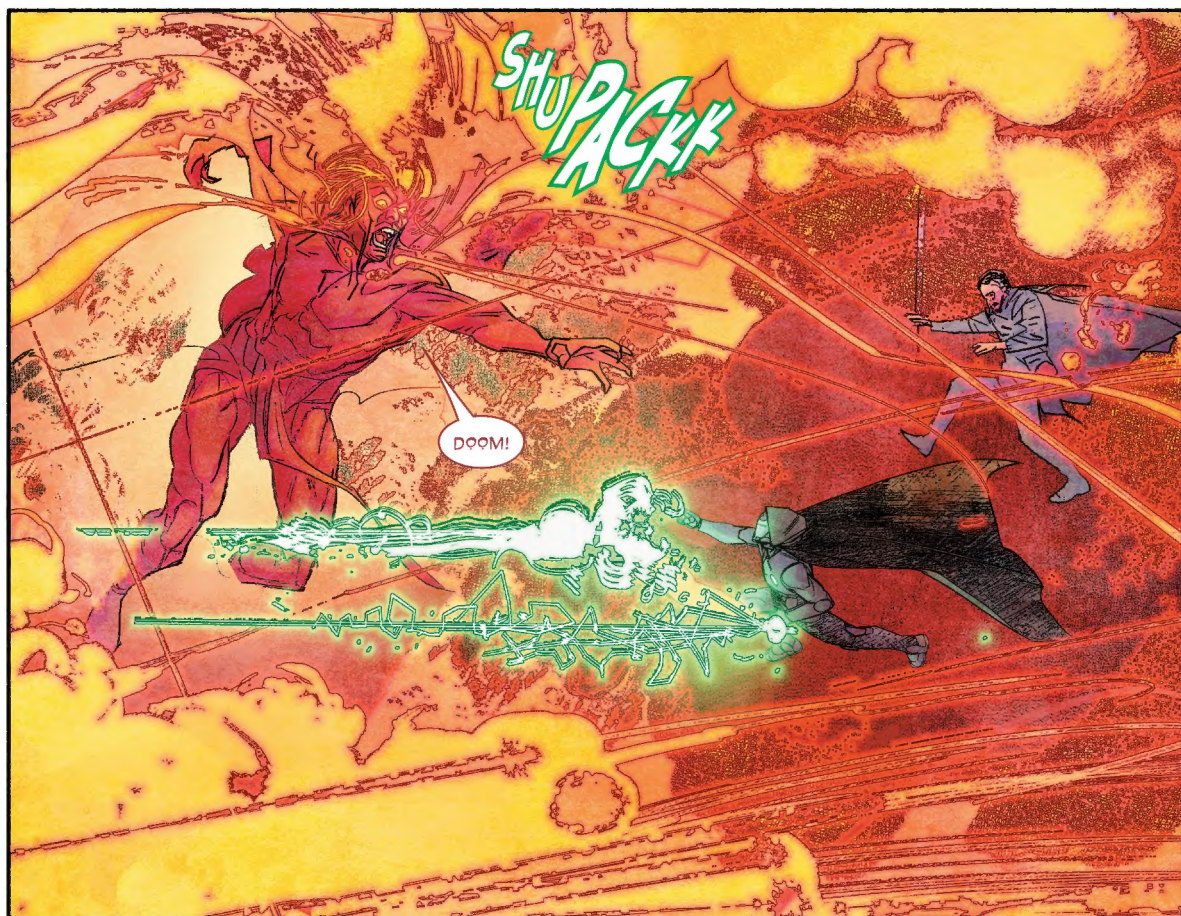
LISTEN, I KNOW YOU ALL.

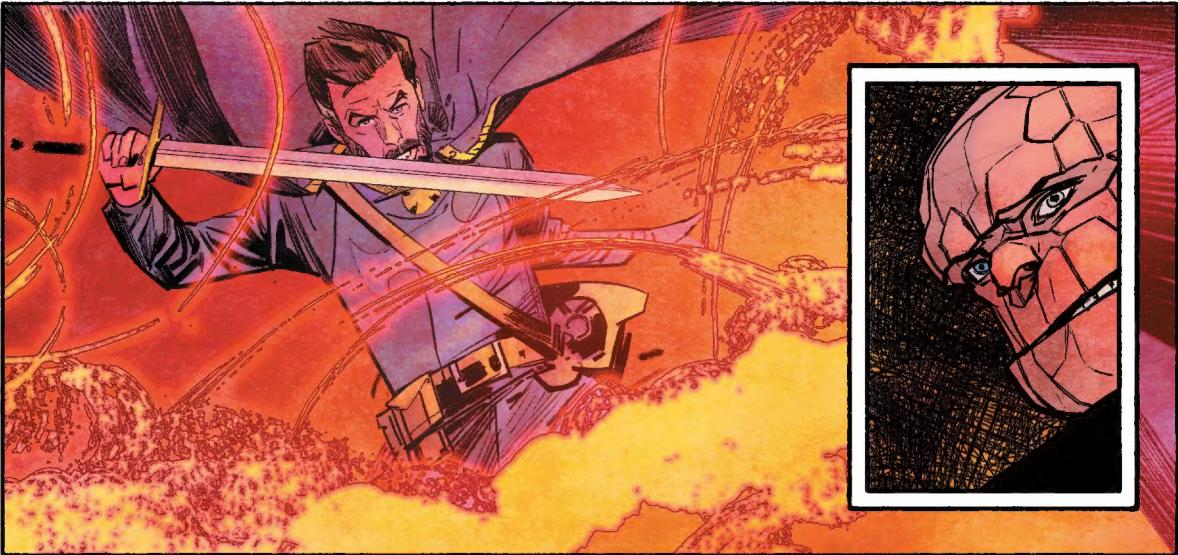
I KNOW WHAT YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE ALONE AND I KNOW WHAT YOU *REALLY* THINK ABOUT.

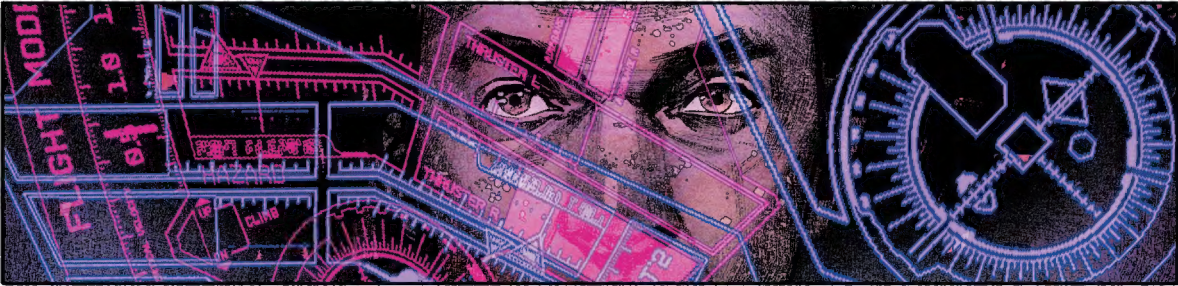
I KNOW I'M GOING TO SEE MOST OF YOU SOON.



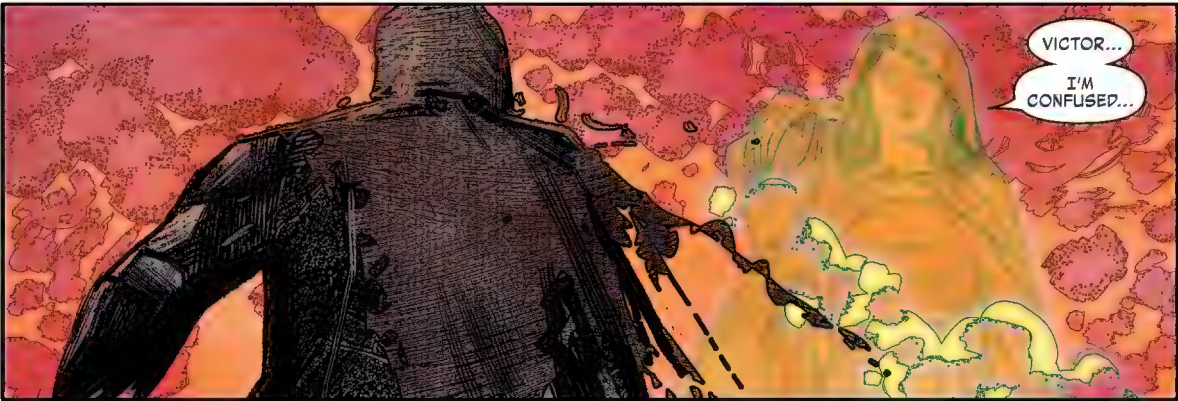
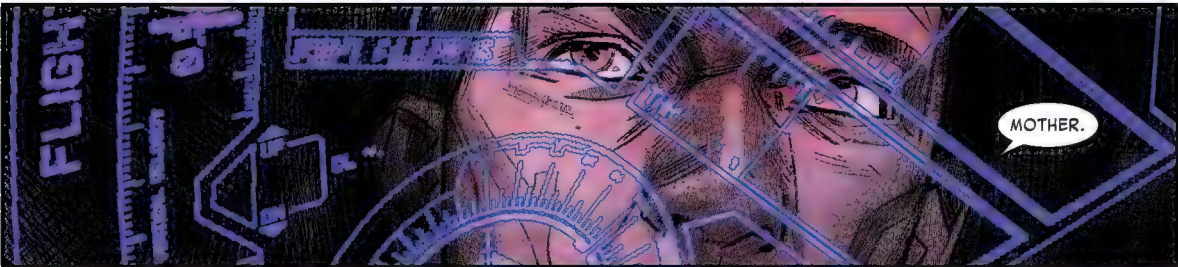
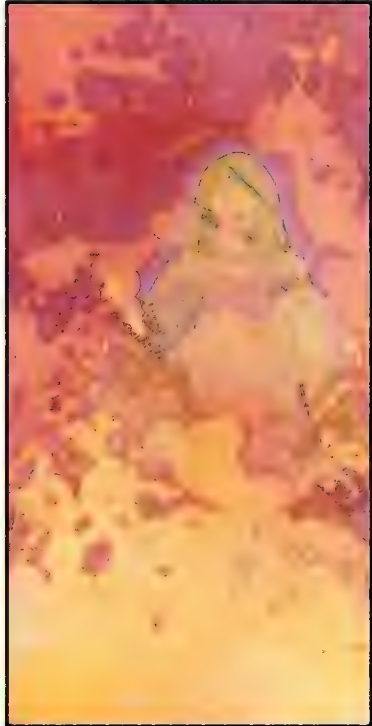
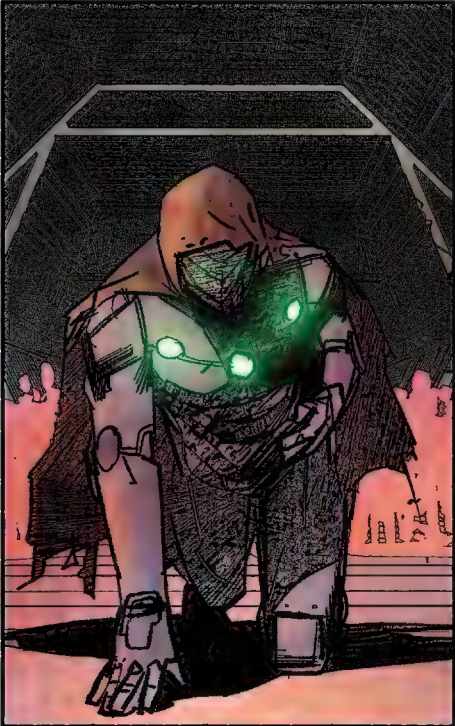
STOP KIDDING YOURSELVES!

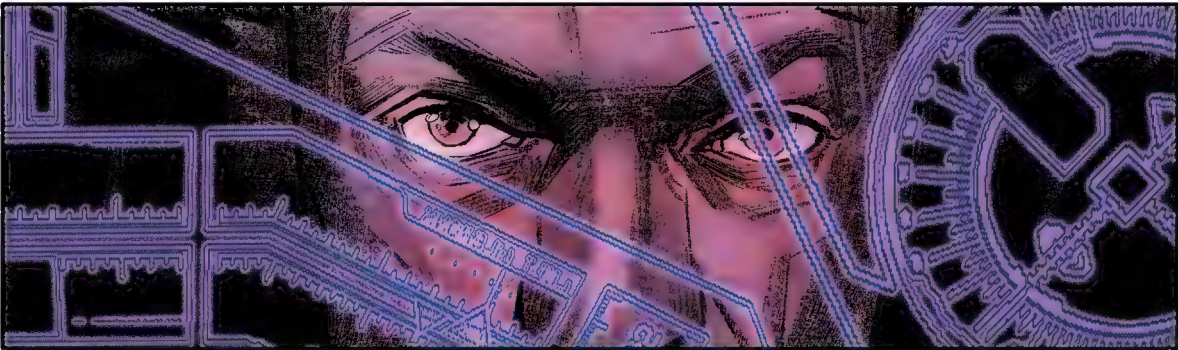
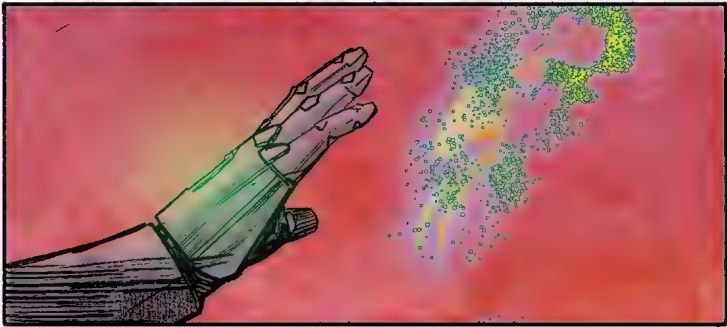
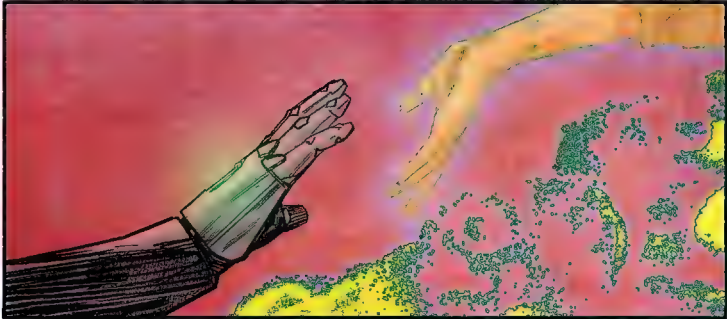
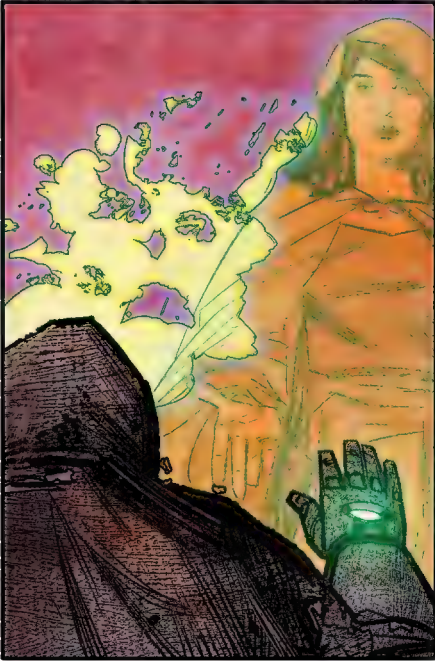
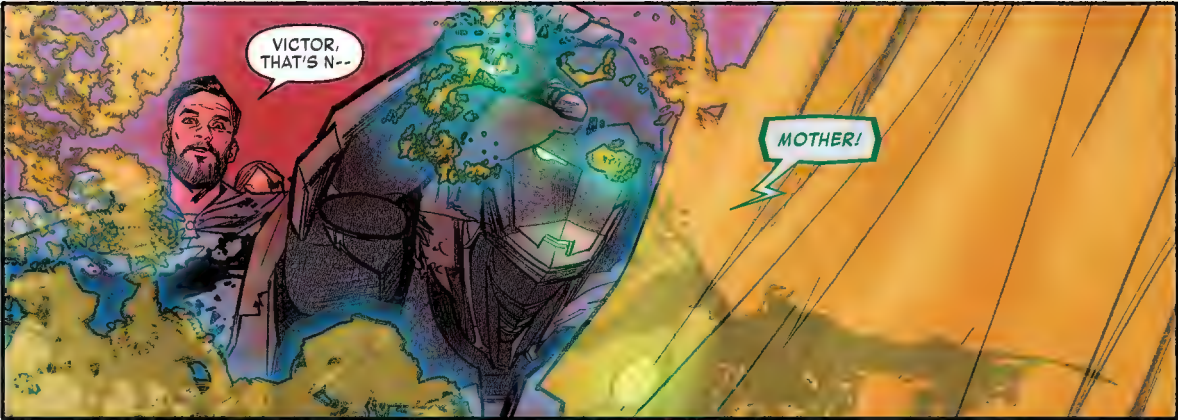


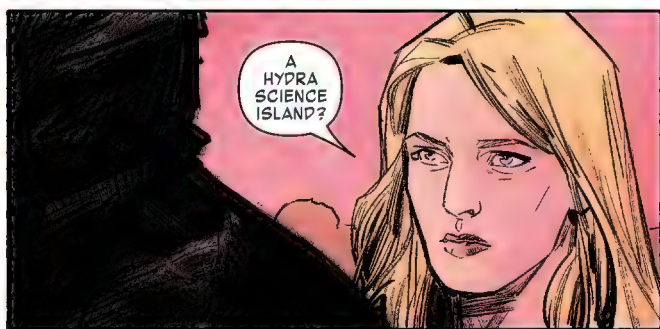
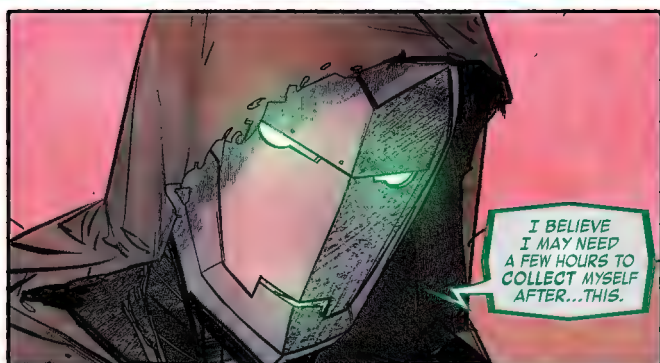
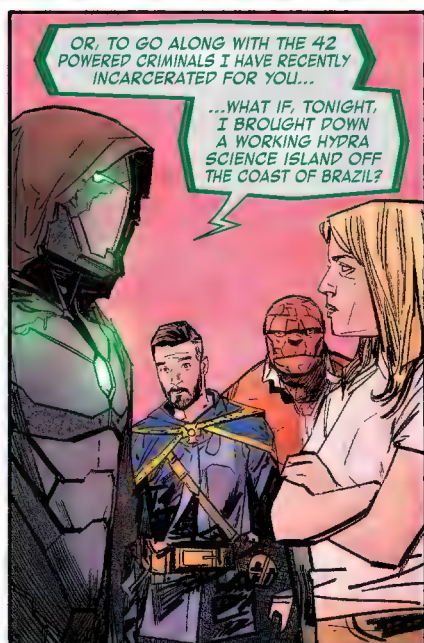
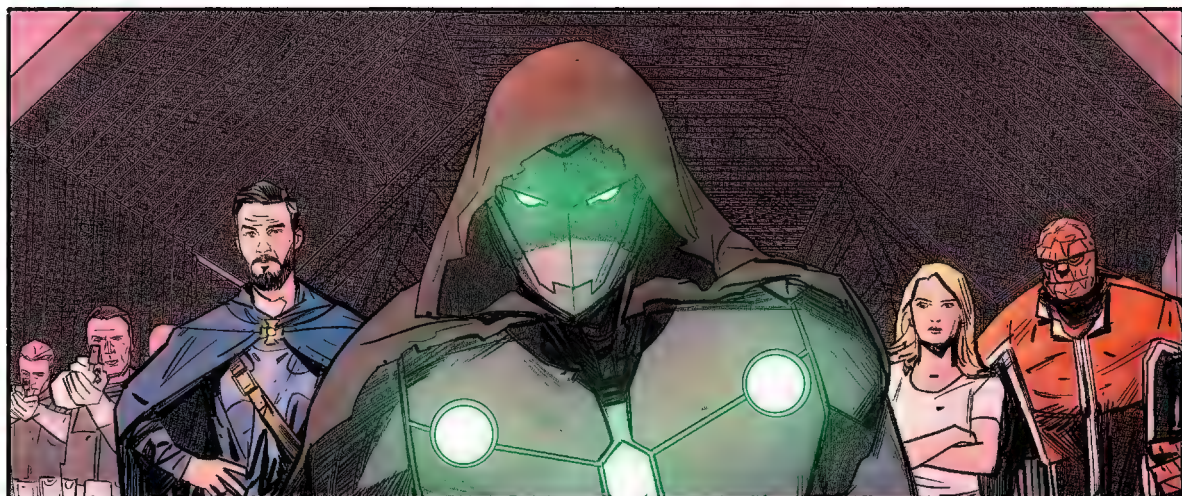


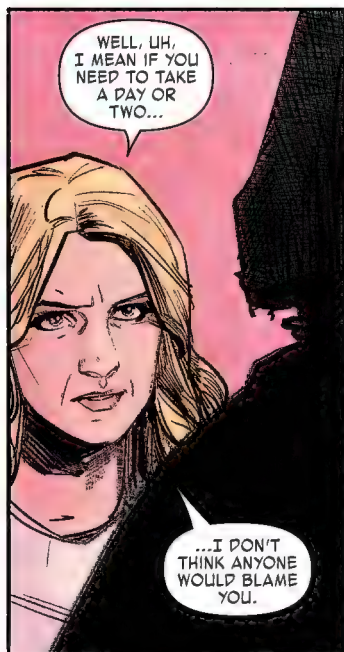






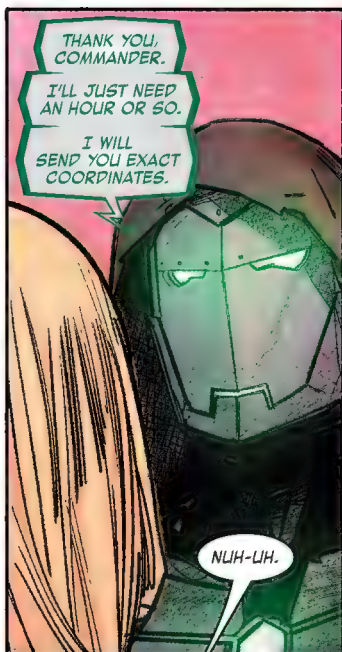






WELL, UH, I MEAN IF YOU NEED TO TAKE A DAY OR TWO...

...I DON'T THINK ANYONE WOULD BLAME YOU.



THANK YOU, COMMANDER.
I'LL JUST NEED AN HOUR OR SO.
I WILL SEND YOU EXACT COORDINATES.

NUH-UH.



NO. NUH-UH.

NO WAY YOU'RE LETTING HIM WALK.



AGENT GRIMM, YOU ARE UNDERSTANDABLY EMOTIONAL.

YEAH, I AM.
AND I SEE YA LETTIN' DIS GUY WALK!

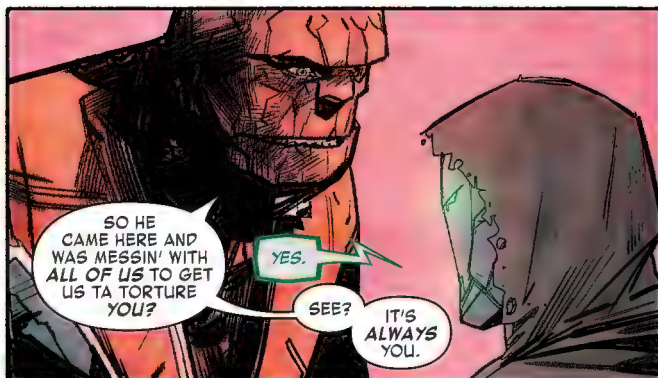
BEN--



YER TELLIN' ME THAT WASN'T REED.

IT WAS NOT.

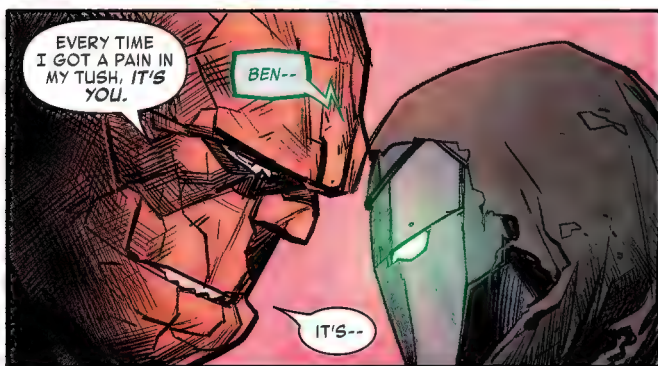
MEPHISTO.
UPPER DEMON.
PRETTY BIG DEAL.



SO HE CAME HERE AND WAS MESSIN' WITH ALL OF US TO GET US TA TORTURE YOU?

YES.

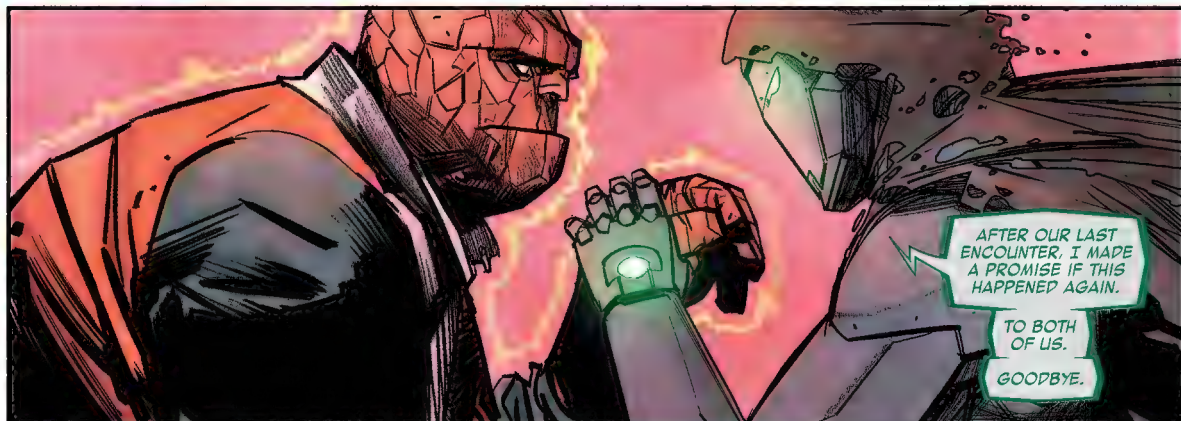
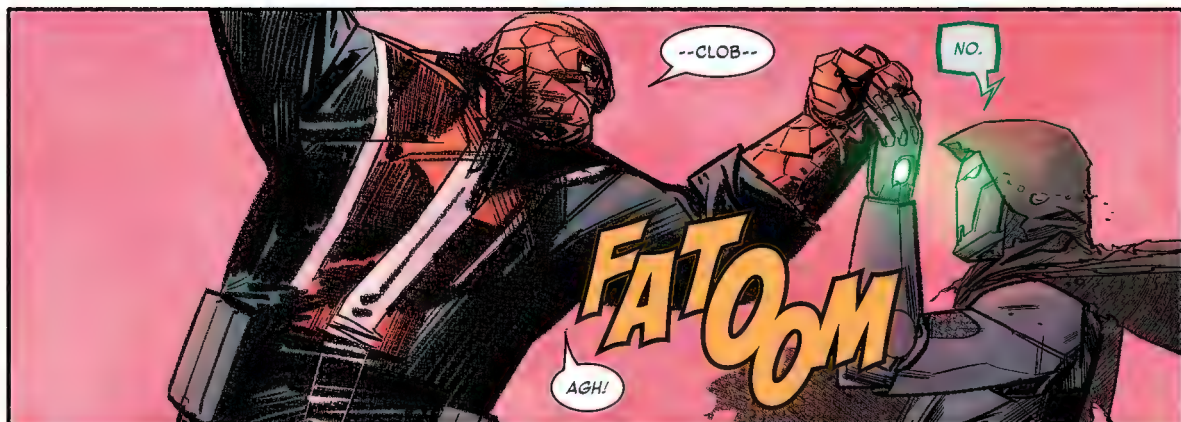
SEE? IT'S ALWAYS YOU.

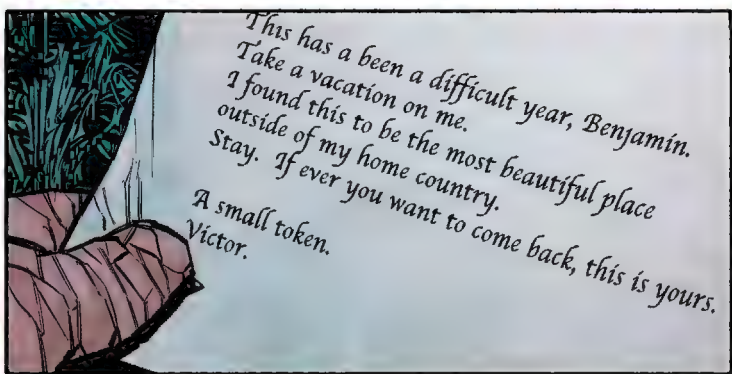
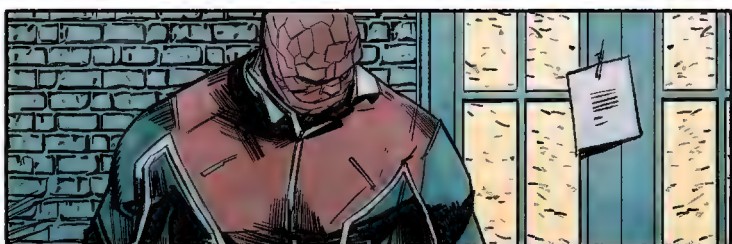


EVERY TIME I GOT A PAIN IN MY TUSH, IT'S YOU.

BEN--

IT'S--







WHERE DID HE GO, DOCTOR?!

DOOM HAS THE MYSTICAL POWER OF TELEPORTATION.

OH, GOOD!

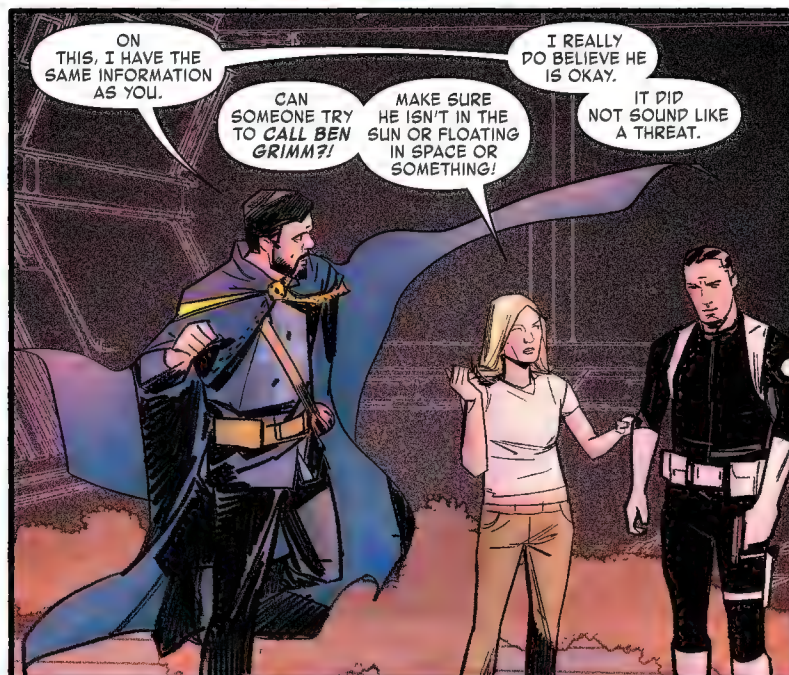
HE CAN BE ANYWHERE HE WANTS.



HE ALSO, IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, HAS A TIME MACHINE.

HE COULD BE ANY "WHEN" HE WANTS.

WHERE'S AGENT GRIMM?



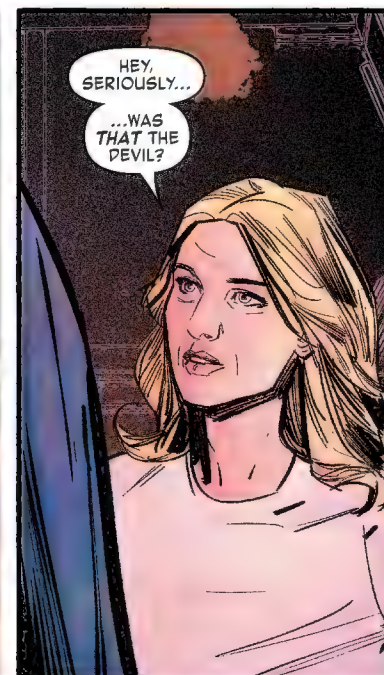
ON THIS, I HAVE THE SAME INFORMATION AS YOU.

CAN SOMEONE TRY TO CALL BEN GRIMM?!

MAKE SURE HE ISN'T IN THE SUN OR FLOATING IN SPACE OR SOMETHING!

I REALLY DO BELIEVE HE IS OKAY.

IT DID NOT SOUND LIKE A THREAT.

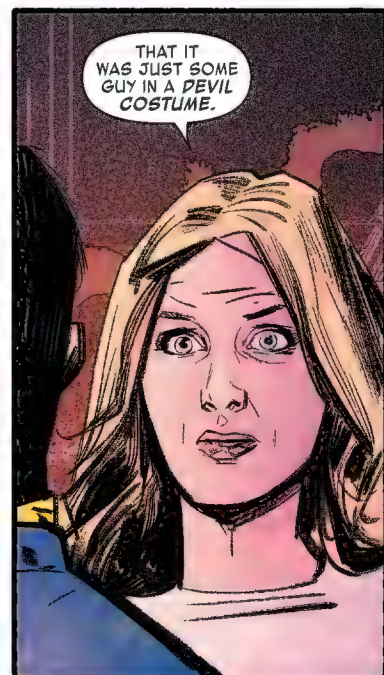


HEY, SERIOUSLY...

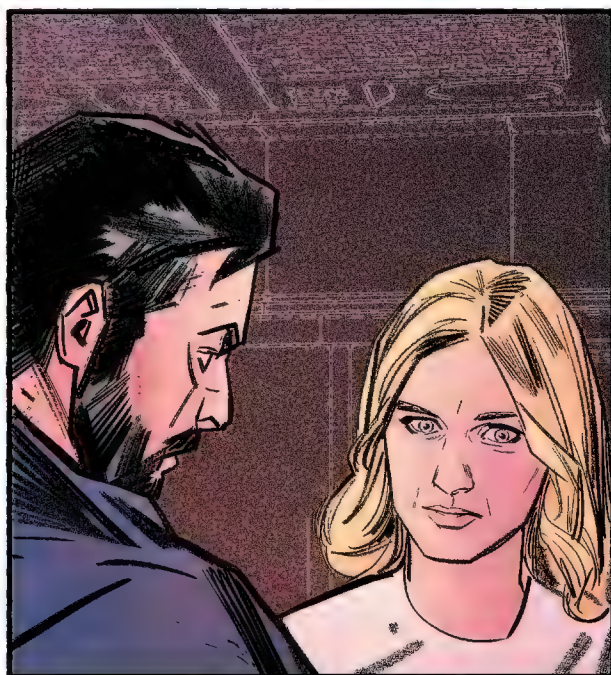
...WAS THAT THE DEVIL?



IS THERE ANY ANSWER I COULD GIVE THAT WOULD MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER ABOUT THIS?



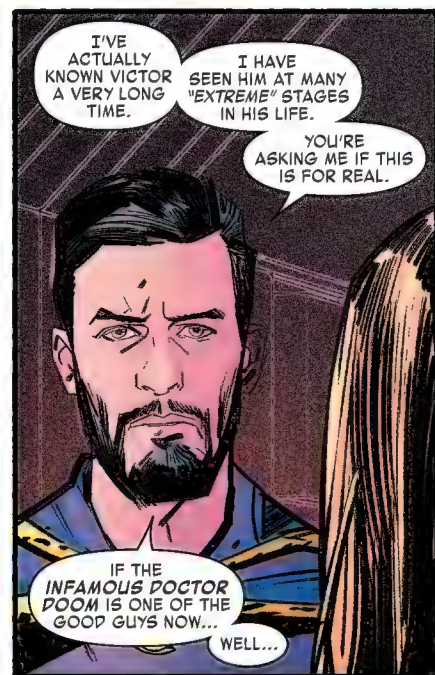
THAT IT WAS JUST SOME GUY IN A DEVIL COSTUME.



AT LEAST, PLEASE, DOES HE MEAN IT?

COULD IT BE TRUE?

IS HE REALLY GOING TO BRING ME A HYDRA SCIENCE ISLAND?



I'VE ACTUALLY KNOWN VICTOR A VERY LONG TIME.

I HAVE SEEN HIM AT MANY "EXTREME" STAGES IN HIS LIFE.

YOU'RE ASKING ME IF THIS IS FOR REAL.

IF THE INFAMOUS DOCTOR DOOM IS ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS NOW...

WELL...

"...WE'LL HAVE TO LET
HIS ACTIONS SPEAK
FOR HIM."



RYKER'S ISLAND
MAXIMUM SECURITY
PENITENTIARY.

OPEN
AIR!

FIFTEEN
MINUTES!

ENJOY
THE FRESH AIR,
BOYS.

HE'S
KIDDIN',
RIGHT?

SO
MEAN.

I GOT A
ITCH.

YEAH,
WRECKER, HE'S BEIN'
SARCASTIC.

CAN I SAY
SOMETHING I'VE
BEEN WANTING TO
SAY?

☿%&#
POOM.

RIGHT ON,
CORRUPTER.

HE BROKE
THE ONE CODE
YOU DO NOT
BREAK.

HE SOLD
US OUT FOR HIS
GREATER GLORY IS
WHAT HE DID!

AND DERE
AIN'T NOTHIN' DAT'S
GONNA CONVINCE ME
UPPERWISE!

FIRST THING
I DO WHEN I GET
OUTTA HERE IS RIP
THE ARMOR RIGHT
OFF HIS SMUG
ASS!

OH, IT'S,
LIKE, THE ONLY
REASON I WANT
OUT.

YEAH,
IF YOU GUYS
ARE PLANNIN'
SOMETHING ON
POOM, I AM
ALL IN!

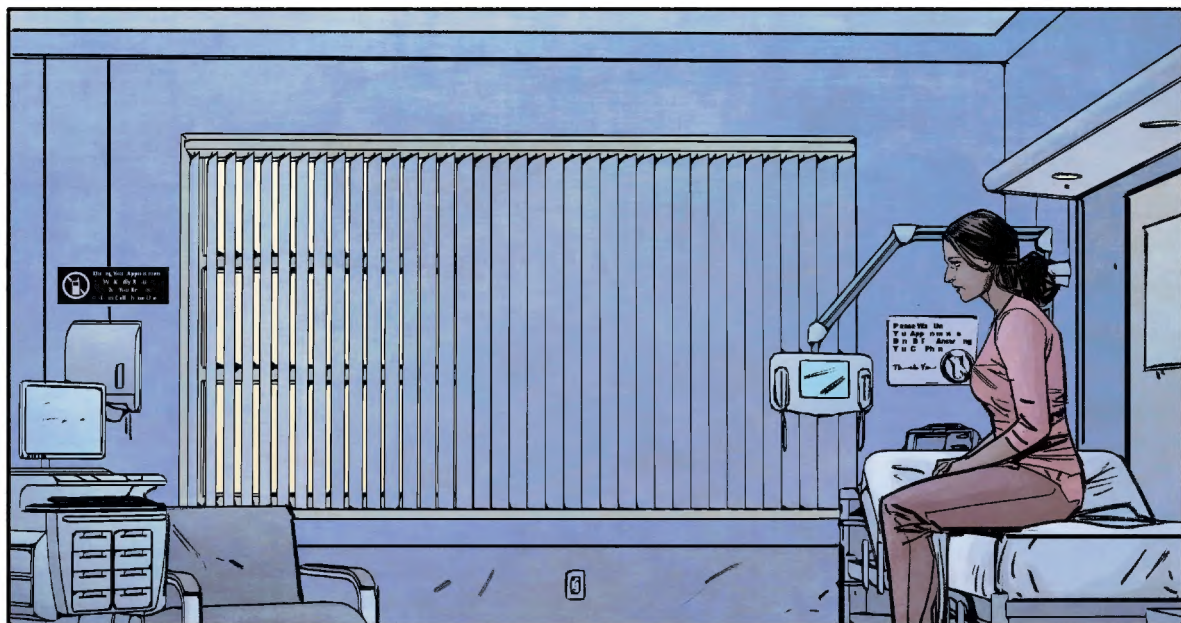
HE
BROKE THE ONE
RULE.

IF THIS IS
SERIOUS, I CAN GET
US OUT OF HERE WITH
A PHONE CALL.

AND I KNOW
A GUY WHO CAN
FIND POOM NO
MATTER WHERE
HE IS!

I LOVE
THAT WE'RE
FINALLY TALKING
ABOUT THIS.

IT'S
SETTLED, THEN...WE
GET POOM.



NEXT ISSUE: INVINCIBLE IRON MAN # 593!

MARVEL

LEGACY

THE SEARCH FOR TONY STARK PART **1**

593



THE INVINCIBLE

IRON MAN



THE SEARCH FOR TONY STARK!